

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 02441 062227Z

72

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

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R 062208Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8466

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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UNCLAS SANTIAGO 2441

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI, PINT, PFOR, SOCI, UN

SUBJ: PROVINCIAL MILITARY TRIBUNALS

1. IN ADDITION TO CONTINUING AIR FORCE TRIAL IN SANTIAGO, WEEKEND PRESS MAY 4-5 REPORTS ON FOUR ADDITIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNALS (CONSEJOS DE GUERRA) IN PROVINCES IN WHICH DEFENDANTS ARE EXCLUSIVELY CIVILIANS.
2. TALCO - TRIBUNAL ISSUED SENTENCES RANGING FROM 10 YEARS TO 60 DAYS FOR 17 PERSONS REPORTEDLY CONVICTED FOR VIOLATIONS OF ARMS CONTROL LAW. THIS LAW, PASSED IN LATE 1972, ASSIGNS ORIGINAL JURISDICTION TO MILITARY COURTS. NO PROMINENT PERSONALITIES AMONG 17, NINE OF WHOM RECEIVED 60 DAY SENTENCES.
3. VALPARAISO - TRIBUNAL BEGAN CONSIDERATION OF CASE OF ONE JUAN EDMUNDO DIAZ POPENBERG, ACCUSED OF ESPIONAGE AND VIOLATION OF ARMS CONTROL LAW. NAVAL PROSECUTOR IS ASKING LIFE IMPRISONMENT.
4. TEMUCO - TRUNBAL EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN NEXT FEW DAYS HEARING CASES OF SEVEN ALLEGED MIR PROVINCIAL-LEVEL LEADERS. PENALTIES REQUESTED UNKNOWN. TRIAL WILL REPORTEDLY BE PUBLIC.

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PAGE 02 SANTIA 02441 062227Z

5. RANCAGUA - CASES OF 22 PERSONS FROM O'HIGGINS PROVINCE

EXPECTED TO BE HEARD BEGINNING MAY 6. MORE THAN HALF OF
ACCUSED ARE REPORTEDLY "MARXIST FORMER GRAE UNION LEADERS"
FROM NEARBY EL TENIENTE COPPER MINE. CHARGES APPARENTLY
INCLUDE PARTICIPATION IN VIOLENCE AGAINST STRIKING MINERS
AND THEIR SUPPORTERS DURING EL TENIENTE STRIKE APRIL-JUNE
1973, AS WELL AS URGING VIOLENCE AND FORMATION OF GUERRILLA
GROUPS PRIOR TO COUP. SOME SANTIAGO LAWYERS ARE INVOLVED IN
DEFENDING SEVERAL OF THE DEFENDANTS; THEY HAVE HAD INDICTMENT
(DICTAMEN) FOR ABOUT TEN DAYS. MAXIMUM PENALTY REPORTEDLY
REQUESTED IS 16 YEARS. TRIALS REPORTEDLY WILL BE PUBLIC.
POPPER

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